

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are a sort processing method and a sort processing apparatus, which, in a computer or data processing, compare magnitudes of pieces of data input by hardware, rearrange the pieces of data in accordance with a predetermined order and output the rearranged pieces of data. The sort processing apparatus includes first basic cells, each of which is composed of a first data comparator for comparing magnitudes of pieces of input data with each other and for outputting a first select signal, and a first data selector for rearranging said compared pieces of input data in a magnitude order on the basis of said first select signal, wherein said first basic cells having the same number as that of combinations of pieces of input data to be compared are arranged in a pipeline configuration.